

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Mohammad M. Samii

Serial No.: 10/634,424

Filed: August 5, 2003

Docket No.: 200205843-6

Title: PHOTSENSOR ACTIVATION OF AN EJECTION ELEMENT OF A FLUID-EJECTION DEVICE

REMARKS

The following remarks are made in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed November 2, 2005. In that Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 10-14, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujii et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,053,789 ("Fujii") in view of Sueoka et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,024,439 ("Sueoka"). Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Maru et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,877,784 ("Maru") in view of Fujii. Claims 5-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Maru in view of Fujii as applied to claim 4, and further in view of Millman et al., Microelectronics, Second Edition, McGraw-Hill, Inc., 1987, ("Millman"). Claims 1-3, 9, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tamura et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,794,463 ("Tamura") in view of Fujii.

With this Response, claims 1, 7, and 23 have been amended. Claims 1-14 and 23 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 10-14, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujii et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,053,789 ("Fujii") in view of Sueoka et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,024,439 ("Sueoka"). Amended independent claim 1 recites "a plurality of latches; and a plurality of junction photosensors, each junction photosensor coupled to one of the ejection elements via one of the latches". Fujii does not teach or suggest a junction photosensor coupled to an ejection element via a latch, as recited in independent claim 1. Sueoka also does not teach or suggest this limitation.

In view of the above, independent claim 1 is not taught or suggested by Fujii and Sueoka, either alone, or in combination. Applicant respectfully requests removal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and requests allowance of this claim. Dependent claims 2, 3, and 10-14 further define patentably distinct claim 1, are further distinguishable over the cited references, and are believed to be allowable over the cited prior art. Applicant respectfully requests removal of the rejection of claims 2, 3, and 10-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and requests allowance of these claims.

Amended independent claim 23 recites "a junction photosensor coupled to the ejection element via a latch and a multi-transistor amplifier". Fujii does not teach or suggest

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a junction photosensor coupled to an ejection element via a latch and a multi-transistor amplifier, as recited in independent claim 23. Sueoka also does not teach or suggest this limitation.

In view of the above, independent claim 23 is not taught or suggested by Fujii and Sueoka, either alone, or in combination. Applicant respectfully requests removal of the rejection of claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and requests allowance of this claim.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Maru et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,877,784 (“Maru”) in view of Fujii. Amended independent claim 1 recites “a plurality of latches; and a plurality of junction photosensors, each junction photosensor coupled to one of the ejection elements via one of the latches”. Maru discloses latches, but does not teach or suggest a junction photosensor coupled to an ejection element via a latch, as recited in independent claim 1. Fujii also does not teach or suggest this limitation.

In view of the above, independent claim 1 is not taught or suggested by Maru and Fujii, either alone, or in combination. Applicant respectfully requests removal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and requests allowance of this claim. Dependent claims 2-4 further define patentably distinct claim 1, are further distinguishable over the cited references, and are believed to be allowable over the cited prior art. Applicant respectfully requests removal of the rejection of claims 2-4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and requests allowance of these claims.

The Examiner rejected claims 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Maru in view of Fujii as applied to claim 4, and further in view of Millman et al., Microelectronics, Second Edition, McGraw-Hill, Inc., 1987, (“Millman”). As described above, Maru and Fujii do not teach or suggest “a plurality of latches; and a plurality of junction photosensors, each junction photosensor coupled to one of the ejection elements via one of the latches”, as recited in independent claim 1. Millman also does not teach or suggest this limitation of claim 1.

In view of the above, dependent claims 5-8, which further define patentably distinct claim 1 and are further distinguishable over the cited references, are believed to be allowable over the cited prior art. Applicant respectfully requests removal of the rejection of claims 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and requests allowance of these claims.

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The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 9, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tamura et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,794,463 ("Tamura") in view of Fujii. Amended independent claim 1 recites "a plurality of latches; and a plurality of junction photosensors, each junction photosensor coupled to one of the ejection elements via one of the latches". Tamura does not teach or suggest a junction photosensor coupled to an ejection element via a latch, as recited in independent claim 1. Fujii also does not teach or suggest this limitation.

In view of the above, independent claim 1 is not taught or suggested by Tamura and Fujii, either alone, or in combination. Applicant respectfully requests removal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and requests allowance of this claim. Dependent claims 2, 3, and 9 further define patentably distinct claim 1, are further distinguishable over the cited references, and are believed to be allowable over the cited prior art. Applicant respectfully requests removal of the rejection of claims 2, 3, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and requests allowance of these claims.

Amended independent claim 23 recites "a junction photosensor coupled to the ejection element via a latch and a multi-transistor amplifier". Tamura does not teach or suggest a junction photosensor coupled to an ejection element via a latch and a multi-transistor amplifier, as recited in independent claim 23. Fujii also does not teach or suggest this limitation.

In view of the above, independent claim 23 is not taught or suggested by Tamura and Fujii, either alone, or in combination. Applicant respectfully requests removal of the rejection of claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and requests allowance of this claim.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-14 and 23 are in form for allowance and are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-14 and 23 is respectfully requested.

No fees are required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)(c). However, if such fees are required, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

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The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at the below-listed telephone numbers to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to James R. McDaniel at Telephone No. (208) 396-4095, Facsimile No. (208) 396-3958 or Jeff A. Holmen at Telephone No. (612) 573-0178, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8:

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope address to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 9th day of January, 2006.

By: Jeff A. Holmen
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